

# CHAPTER 10: THE LAND USE PLAN

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## Overview

The purpose of the Land Use Plan is to serve as a guide for zoning, land use and development-related decisions and does not rezone property or carry regulatory standing. This chapter includes recommendations for the location and density of growth, and general design characteristics for new development. The recommended future land use pattern is closely tied to other components of the Plan such as utilities, public facilities, transportation, economic development and revitalization, as each play an integral part in shaping the county.

Major considerations used in the development of the Land Use Plan Map and Categories include the following:

- ❖ Selected previously adopted Special Area Plans
- ❖ Existing land use patterns
- ❖ Topography and other physical characteristics
- ❖ Existing residential neighborhood densities and lot sizes
- ❖ Ability to provide public water and wastewater in an orderly manner
- ❖ Existing and future transportation facilities
- ❖ Orderly expansion of other public infrastructure and facilities
- ❖ Protecting current and future county airport operations
- ❖ Providing a range of housing types
- ❖ Providing a range of employment opportunities
- ❖ Providing a range of commercial services
- ❖ Offering waterfront development opportunities.

While the boundaries between land uses shown on the Land Use Plan Map are precisely delineated, these boundaries are somewhat flexible when evaluating individual development proposals. Adjustment to these boundaries may be considered during evaluation of specific development proposals. Adjustments should be based upon specific site conditions; opportunities for better land use transitions and site design by expanding the exact boundaries of the land use category designation; and existing and future area land uses.

The Land Use Plan chapter is comprised of two major components:

- General Land Use Guidelines providing direction for the evaluation of development proposals. These guidelines should apply to all land uses on a countywide basis regardless of development type.
- Land Use Plan Map Categories and the Land Use Plan Map providing more specific direction for the evaluation of specific proposals.

## General Land Use Guidelines

The following General Land Use Guidelines should be used when addressing specific development and land use issues:

- **Public Facilities.** Coordinate development proposals with the orderly extension and provision of adequate public facilities and infrastructure.
- **Economic Development Areas.** Protect areas designated for employment-generating uses and commercial services from encroachment of residential uses, except in mixed use developments. Encourage development phasing of sites concurrent with the development of adequate roads and other infrastructure necessary to support the recommended intensity and density of development.
- **Land Use Regulation Streamlining.** Promote land use regulations that are easy to understand and implement by incorporating illustrations, charts and graphics.
- **Innovative Development.** Give consideration to unique and innovative development proposals that may not conform to a literal interpretation of the Plan, if the benefits and merits are consistent with the intent of the Plan to achieve a well-designed, integrated and high quality community served by adequate public facilities and infrastructure.
- **Compatibility and Transition.** Include land use transitions, site design and buffering in development proposals located outside of mixed use areas to reduce the impacts between incompatible land uses.
- **Development Integration.** Encourage new development designs to accommodate pedestrian and vehicular interconnectivity with similar existing and future developments, provided that existing developments are not adversely impacted.
- **Quality Design Standards.** Encourage new development to incorporate quality design standards for architecture, landscaping and pedestrian ways that create unique and viable places and enhance the community.
- **Existing Zoning Not In Compliance with the Plan.** Provide flexibility in consideration of zoning amendments when such amendments would bring the zoning and development closer into compliance with the Land Use Plan Map.
- **Land Aggregation/Master Planning.** Encourage land aggregation and/or master planning in instances where development of an individual parcel is constrained due to its size or shape. This should be considered where necessary to conform to land use regulations, achieve land use compatibility or transition or provide adequate transportation improvements.
- **High Density and Age-Targeted Residential Developments.** Encourage new high density and age-targeted developments to be located in Community and Regional Mixed Use areas, or in proximity to supporting office and commercial services.
- **Open Space.** Where open space is provided to compensate for reduced lot sizes or accommodate increased intensity, encourage the long-term preservation of such areas.

- **Historic Preservation.** Encourage the preservation of historic sites and structures through their adaptive reuse. Support uses other than those identified on the Land Use Plan Map, provided the uses can be designed and operated to minimize the impact on existing and anticipated area development, and the site or structure is designated as a county historic landmark.
- **Rural Residential/Agricultural and Residential Agricultural Areas.** Promote agricultural related activities in these areas by considering the following:
  - Uses that support agricultural activities, such as farmer's markets and agricultural tourism.
  - Commercial uses for a limited time period with minimal site improvements, provided the uses can be designed and operated to minimize the impact on existing and anticipated area development.
  - Incentives that encourage continued agricultural activities.

## Land Use Plan Map Categories

The Land Use Plan does not rezone property. Rather, the Plan provides guidance for future land use decisions. The Land Use Plan does not impact continuation of existing legal land uses or other uses permitted by existing zoning of individual properties.

### **RURAL RESIDENTIAL/AGRICULTURAL**

*Equivalent Zoning: A*

#### **Uses**

In an Agricultural (A) District, the following uses are appropriate:

- Single family dwellings on a minimum of 5 acres fronting 250 to 300 feet along existing public roads.
- Single family dwellings on a minimum of 1 acre created through family divisions.
- Single family dwellings on less than 5 acres in instances where the parcel was created prior to the adoption of the 5 acre requirement.
- Farming.

#### **Utilities**

In most instances, single family dwellings on individual parcels will use individual wells and individual on-site septic systems.

#### **Future Development Potential**

Since publicly financed infrastructure improvements including utilities, roads, schools, fire stations libraries, parks and other public services are not planned in this area during the life of this Comprehensive Plan, it is anticipated that development for this period will be limited to those uses discussed above. If, however, development proposals include private sector commitments and assurances for the provision of such infrastructure, it may be appropriate to consider those proposals in conjunction with an amendment to the Plan. These assurances and commitments could include private sector financing for major utility upgrades and expansion of the public system; major road improvements; and construction of schools, fire stations, parks and libraries. The Plan amendment would assess not only the specific development proposal, but also the potential influence of the proposal on future growth and development in the area.

### **RESIDENTIAL AGRICULTURAL**

**Density: Maximum of 0.5 dwellings per acre**

***Equivalent Zoning: A; R-88 Updated; R-C Updated; New R-A Category***

#### **Uses**

A combination of agricultural and residential uses is appropriate in this category.

In an Agricultural (A) District, the following uses are appropriate:

- Single family dwellings on a minimum of 5 acres fronting 250 to 300 feet along an existing public road.
- Single family dwellings on a minimum of 1 acre created through family divisions.
- Single family dwellings on less than 5 acres in instances where the parcel was created prior to the adoption of the 5 acre requirement.
- Farming.

In Residential (R) Districts, the following uses are appropriate:

- Single family dwellings on large lots in developments that preserve the rural/forested character along arterial roads and in some instances along collector roads.
- Small-scale farming.
- Subdivisions with lots of 2.0 acres.
- Subdivisions with lots smaller than 2.0 acres if usable open space is provided to maintain the overall density recommendations. Such open space should preserve rural vistas such as ponds, pastures and wooded areas, while providing passive recreational areas (i.e. walking and riding trails).

#### **Utilities**

New subdivision development will use the public water system and individual on-site septic systems.

#### **Development Consideration Adjacent to Existing Neighborhoods**

Densities and lot sizes of existing residentially zoned neighborhoods should be maintained. As new development proposals come forward, densities, average lot sizes, house sizes and quality of existing residential neighborhoods should be closely considered when new development borders, and has primary access through, these existing residential neighborhoods by way of adjacent local subdivision roads.

### **LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL**

**Density: Maximum of 1.0 dwelling per acre**

***Equivalent Zoning: R-40; New R Categories***

#### **Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Single family dwellings on lots of approximately 1 acre.
- Single family dwellings on lots smaller than 1 acre if usable open space is provided to maintain the overall density recommendations within the Low Density Residential area; and primary access is directly to a major roadway and not through an existing residential development having larger lots than the proposed development.

#### **Utilities**

New subdivision development will use the public water system and either individual on-site septic systems or the public wastewater system.

#### **Development Consideration Adjacent to Existing Neighborhoods**

Densities and lot sizes of existing residentially zoned neighborhoods should be maintained. As new development proposals come forward, densities, average lot sizes, house sizes and quality of existing residential neighborhoods should be closely considered when new development borders, and has primary access through, these existing residential neighborhoods by way of adjacent local subdivision roads.

### **PHASED SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL**

**Density: Maximum of 2.0 dwellings per acre**

***Equivalent Zoning: R-25; R-15; R-12; New R Categories***

#### **Uses**

The following uses are appropriate until such time as public utilities and other public facilities are available, as described herein:

- Single family dwellings on a minimum of 5 acres fronting 250 to 300 feet along and existing public road.
- Single family dwellings on a minimum of 1 acre created through family divisions.
- Single family dwellings on less than 5 acres in instances where the parcel was created prior to the adoption of the 5 acre requirement.

### **PHASED SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL (CONTINUED)**

**Density: Maximum of 2.0 dwellings per acre**

***Equivalent Zoning: R-25; R-15; R-12; New R Categories***

#### **Future Development Potential**

To discourage leapfrog development, subdivision development is dependent upon the orderly and incremental extension of the public gravity wastewater lines in accordance with the latest *Chesterfield County Water and Sewer Procedures and Specifications Manual*, and provisions for road improvements and other public facilities to accommodate demands resulting from development. Off-site extension of the public gravity wastewater trunk lines should not exceed a distance of 3,000 feet from the nearest existing gravity line as measured along the most reasonable route, as determined by the Utilities Department. In addition, residential zoning should be phased, generally from east to west, from existing gravity wastewater trunk lines, such that zoning does not occur beyond 3,000 feet from the location of existing lines at the time of zoning application.

At that time, the following uses would be appropriate:

- Single family dwellings on lots ranging between 12,000 and 25,000 square feet.
- Dwellings on smaller lots or condominiums under the following circumstances:
  - Development design and quality complements and enhances the surrounding residential area.
  - Water quality protection is provided for the Swift Creek Reservoir.
  - Primary access is directly to a major roadway and not through an existing residential development having an average lot size larger than that of the proposed development.
  - Compensating usable open space maintains the overall density recommendations.
  - Quality design standards which could include the provision of sidewalks, street trees, site and individual lot landscaping, quality and variety of architectural design, garage orientation and hardscaped driveways.

#### **Utilities**

New subdivision or condominium development will use the public water and wastewater systems.

#### **Development Consideration Adjacent to Existing Neighborhoods**

Densities and lot sizes of existing residentially zoned neighborhoods should be maintained. As new development proposals come forward, densities, average lot sizes, house sizes and quality of existing residential neighborhoods should be closely considered when new development borders, and has primary access through, these existing residential neighborhoods by way of adjacent local subdivision roads.

### **SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL I**

**Density: Maximum of 2.0 dwellings per acre**

***Equivalent Zoning: R-25; R-15; R-12; New R Categories***

#### **Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Single family dwellings on lots ranging between 12,000 and 25,000 square feet.
- Dwellings on smaller lots or condominiums under the following circumstances:
  - Development design and quality complements and enhances the surrounding residential area.
  - Water quality protection is provided for the Swift Creek Reservoir.
  - Primary access is directly to a major roadway and not through an existing residential development having an average lot size than that proposed by the development.
  - Compensating usable open space maintains the overall density recommendations.
  - Quality design standards which could include the provision of sidewalks, street trees, site and individual lot landscaping, quality and variety of architectural design, garage orientation and hardscaped driveways.

#### **Utilities**

New subdivision or condominium development will use the public water and wastewater systems.

#### **Development Consideration Adjacent to Existing Neighborhoods**

Densities and lot sizes of existing residentially zoned neighborhoods should be maintained. As new development proposals come forward, densities, average lot sizes, house sizes and quality of existing residential neighborhoods should be closely considered when new development borders, and has primary access through, these existing residential neighborhoods by way of adjacent local subdivision roads.



### **SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL II**

**Density: 2.0 to 4.0 dwellings per acre**

***Equivalent Zoning: R-25; R-15; R-12; New R Categories***

#### **Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Single family dwellings on lots ranging between 12,000 and 25,000 square feet.
- Dwellings on smaller lots or condominiums under the following circumstances:
  - Development design and quality complements and enhances the surrounding residential area.
  - Primary access is directly to a major roadway and not through an existing residential development having an average lot size than that proposed by the development.
  - Compensating usable open space maintains the overall density recommendations.
  - Quality development standards which could include the provision of sidewalks, street trees, site and individual lot landscaping, quality and variety of architectural design, garage orientation and hardscaped driveways.

#### **Utilities**

New subdivision or condominium development will use the public water and wastewater systems.

#### **Development Consideration Adjacent to Existing Neighborhoods**

Densities and lot sizes of existing residentially zoned neighborhoods should be maintained. As new development proposals come forward, densities, average lot sizes, house sizes and quality of existing residential neighborhoods should be closely considered when new development borders, and has primary access through, these existing residential neighborhoods by way of adjacent local subdivision roads.

**MEDIUM-HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL**

**Density: Minimum 4.0 to 8.0 dwellings per acre**

***Equivalent Zoning: R-7 Updated; R-9 Updated; R-TH Updated; R-MF Updated; New R Categories***

**Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Various residential types including, but not limited to, single family, two-family, zero lot line, townhouse, condominium and multifamily dwellings. Projects should be developed at the minimum densities suggested for this land use category.

**Design**

These developments should be integrated with surrounding similar residential projects and commercial services through site design and provision of road and sidewalk connectivity. Developments should incorporate usable open space. Design standards could include the provision of sidewalks, street trees, site and individual lot landscaping, quality and variety of architectural design, garage orientation and hardscaped driveways.

In addition to the above design standards, incorporation of Traditional Residential Neighborhood design standards is encouraged. Design standards could include a grid of frequently interconnected internal roads and alleys, sidewalks and public places; dwellings with shallow setbacks adjacent to sidewalks along internal roads having on-street parking; pedestrian-scale streetscape and streetlight design; and other similar features.

**Utilities**

New subdivision, condominium or multi-family development will use the public water and wastewater systems.

**HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL**

**DENSITY: Minimum 8.0 to 12.0 dwellings per acre**

***Equivalent Zoning: R-TH Updated; R-MF Updated; New R Categories***

**Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Various residential types including, but not limited to, townhouse, condominium and multifamily dwellings. Projects should be developed at the minimum densities suggested for this land use category.

**Design**

These developments should be integrated with surrounding similar developments and commercial services through site design and provision of road and sidewalk connectivity. Developments should incorporate usable open space. Standards could include the provision of sidewalks, street trees, site and individual lot landscaping, quality and variety of architectural design, garage orientation and hardscaped driveways.

**Utilities**

New subdivision, condominium or multi-family development will use the public water and wastewater systems.

**NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE (Not all potential sites identified on Land Use Plan Map)**

***Equivalent Zoning: O-1; O-2 Limited***

**Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Professional and administrative offices or similar uses. Typical uses could include doctor, lawyer, accountant and real estate offices.

**Development within Residential Areas**

When located within a residential area, such uses should be those that offer professional services primarily to customers from immediate neighborhoods. In this instance, special consideration should be given to ensure compatibility with, and minimize impacts on, existing or future residential development. This should include limiting the size of sites, individual offices and buildings; and employing residential architectural features. (Equivalent zoning category O-1)

**Development Adjacent to, but not within, Residential Areas**

When located on sites of limited acreage and depth; fronting an arterial road; and adjacent to, but not within, a residential area, design should provide compatibility with, and minimize the impact on, adjacent residential development. (Equivalent zoning category O-2 Limited)

**Sites Not Identified on the Land Use Plan Map**

In addition to the sites shown on the Land Use Plan Map, other locations may be appropriate if located at intersecting collector and/or arterial roads; and are either located within planned subdivision developments or areas shown on the Land Use Plan Map for Rural Residential/Agricultural or Residential Agricultural. In these instances, special consideration should be given to ensure compatibility with, and minimize impacts on, existing or future residential development. This could include minimizing the size of sites and individual buildings; and employing residential architectural features. (Equivalent zoning category O-1)

**CORPORATE OFFICE**

***Equivalent Zoning: O-2***

**Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Professional and administrative offices or similar uses. Typical uses could include corporate headquarters, lawyer, accountant and real estate offices; medical laboratories; and colleges. The size of individual offices is typically larger than that found in a Neighborhood Office area.
- Under certain circumstances, within larger tracts developed for office uses, integrated supporting retail and service uses.

### **CONVENIENCE BUSINESS (Not all potential sites identified on Land Use Plan Map)**

***Equivalent Zoning: C-1***

#### **Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Limited retail and personal services located near residential neighborhoods; in areas shown on the Land Use Plan for Rural Residential/Agricultural and Residential Agricultural; or within new subdivisions. Uses should be limited to those that attract customers residing in proximity to the area. Typical uses could include convenience stores, drug stores, restaurants or other uses that primarily serve residents' daily needs.

#### **Design**

Special consideration should be given to ensure compatibility with, and minimize impacts on, existing or future residential development. This could include minimizing the size of sites and individual buildings, and employing residential architectural features.

#### **Sites Not Identified on the Land Use Plan Map**

In addition to the sites shown on the Land Use Plan Map, other locations may be appropriate if located at intersecting collector and/or arterial roads and are either located within new subdivisions or areas shown on the Land Use Plan Map for Rural Residential/Agricultural and Residential Agricultural.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS**

***Equivalent Zoning: C-2***

#### **Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Commercial uses that serve neighborhood-wide trade areas. Such uses generally attract customers residing in neighborhoods within a small geographical area. The size of individual stores is typically larger than that found in a Convenience Business area; and uses are located completely within an enclosed building. Typical uses could include grocery stores, clothing stores, medical clinics, hardware stores, restaurants or other uses that primarily serve weekly or bi-weekly household needs.

### **COMMUNITY BUSINESS**

***Equivalent Zoning: C-3***

#### **Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Commercial uses that serve community-wide trade areas. Such uses generally attract customers living or working within an approximate radius of 10 miles. Typical uses could include large grocery stores, department stores, home centers, limited repair services or other uses that provide goods and services that are purchased on a less frequent basis than those uses in Convenience or Neighborhood Business areas. Limited outside storage and display may occur as accessory to the primary uses.

### **COMMUNITY MIXED USE**

***Equivalent Zoning: New C-3 Mixed Use Category; TND Updated***

#### **Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Integrated mixture of concentrated commercial and higher density residential uses with public spaces, located on tracts having sufficient size to accommodate such mixtures. The majority of uses within these developments should be commercial and office. Residential uses should be developed in conjunction with the non-residential uses. The residential component of each project should be developed at, or exceeding, the maximum densities suggested for the High Density Residential areas. These mixed use areas are generally located at the intersection of arterial roads.
  - Commercial uses are those that serve community-wide trade areas. Such uses generally attract customers living or working within an approximate radius of 10 miles. Typical uses could include large grocery stores, department stores, home centers, limited repair services or other uses that provide goods and services that are purchased on a less frequent basis than those uses in Convenience or Neighborhood Business areas. Limited outside storage and display may occur as accessory to the primary uses.
  - Higher density residential uses should be located within these mixed uses areas, but should not be the predominate use. These uses could be incorporated vertically (on the upper floors of a building occupied by non-residential uses on lower floors) or horizontally (within separate buildings from the non-residential uses).

#### **Design**

Flexibility in typical zoning standards should be used to encourage innovative and creative design and high-quality development. Urban or Traditional Neighborhood design standards should be employed to ensure integration of uses. These designs could incorporate a grid of frequently interconnected roads and alleys, sidewalks and public places having a pedestrian scale with close attention to walking distances between uses; buildings with shallow setbacks adjacent to sidewalks along roads having on-street parking; and pedestrian-scale streetscape and streetlight design, signs and other similar features.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

*Equivalent Zoning: C-5; I-1*

**Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Intense commercial uses which normally have outside display and storage areas. Typical commercial uses could include motor vehicle related uses, contractor shops and storage yards, manufactured home sales, truck terminals, repair services or other uses that serve customers' specialized needs.
- Light industrial/research and development uses. Typical uses could include various types of laboratories; offices; warehousing; and optical goods, cosmetic, jewelry, musical instruments and artist materials manufacturing.

### REGIONAL MIXED USE

#### *Equivalent Zoning: C-4 Updated*

#### Uses

The following uses are appropriate:

- Integrated mixture of highly concentrated corporate office, commercial, light industrial/research and development, and higher density residential uses with public spaces, located on large tracts of land generally at the interchange of arterials and limited access roads. While the uses permitted are generally similar to those recommended within Community Mixed Use areas, Regional Mixed Use areas are generally larger, more densely and intensely developed with structured parking and often occupied by uses having a regional customer draw. The majority of uses within these developments should be commercial, office, research and development, and light industrial uses. Residential uses should be developed in conjunction with the non-residential uses. The residential component of each project should be developed at, or exceeding, the maximum densities suggested for the High Density Residential areas.
- Commercial uses which generally attract customers living or working within an approximate radius of 20 miles or more. Typical uses could include those found in Community Business areas such as grocery stores, department stores, home centers, limited repair services or other uses that provide goods and services that are purchased on a less frequent basis than those provided in other commercial areas. Uses tend to be of a much larger scale than those in other commercial areas. Limited outside storage and display may occur as accessory to the primary uses.
- Corporate Office/Research and Development/Light Industrial uses which provide for major regional employment opportunities.
- Higher density residential uses should be located within these mixed use areas, but not be the predominate use. These uses could be incorporated vertically (on the upper floors of a building occupied by non-residential uses on lower floors) or horizontally (within separate buildings from the non-residential uses).

#### Design

In some instances, Urban or Traditional Neighborhood design standards should be employed to ensure integration of uses, and should achieve high intensity and density development. Flexibility in typical zoning standards should be used to encourage innovative and creative design and high-quality development. These standards could incorporate a grid of frequently interconnected roads and alleys, sidewalks and public places having a pedestrian scale with close attention to walking distances between uses; buildings with shallow setbacks adjacent to sidewalks along roads having on- street parking; and pedestrian-scale streetscape and streetlight design, signs and other similar features.



**CORPORATE OFFICE/RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT/LIGHT INDUSTRIAL**

*Equivalent Zoning: O-2; I-1; I-2 Limited*

**Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Corporate office, research, laboratories, and light manufacturing and assembly uses that are generally dependent upon raw materials first processed elsewhere. The uses are located completely within an enclosed building. Typical uses could include corporate headquarter offices and various types of laboratories; warehousing; and optical goods, cosmetic, jewelry, musical instruments and artist materials manufacturing. (Equivalent zoning categories O-2 and I-1).
- Moderate industrial uses when designed, located and/or oriented to ensure compatibility with less intense uses; and are of a nature that has a similar impact as light manufacturing/research and development uses. Typical uses could include furniture, noodle, dairy and sign manufacturing. (Equivalent zoning category I-2).
- Under certain circumstances, within larger tracts developed for industrial uses, integrated supporting retail and service uses.

**INDUSTRIAL**

*Equivalent Zoning: I-2; I-3*

**Uses**

The following uses are appropriate:

- Moderate to intense manufacturing uses that are generally dependent upon the processing of raw materials, and uses normally have associated outside storage areas. Typical uses could include paint, tobacco products, paper, rubber, plastic and cement manufacturing; truck terminals; and boat repair.
- Under certain circumstances, within larger tracts developed for industrial uses, integrated supporting retail and service uses.

**CONSERVATION/RECREATION**

*Equivalent Zoning: All zoning districts*

As of the date of the Land Use Plan Map, federal, state and county parklands, and privately owned land held in voluntary public or private trust for the purpose of preserving or promoting its natural function, character or historic significance.

## Land Use Plan Map Notes

### AREA NOTES

#### **Chesterfield County Airport Operational and Runway Approach Areas**

To optimize economic development opportunities associated with the Chesterfield County Airport and to protect the airport from the encroachment of incompatible land uses such as those that are sensitive to noise and other impacts from airport operations, the Land Use Plan Map recommendations discourage new residential development in these areas.

Where existing development patterns provide minimal opportunity for alternative land uses, a limited amount of new residential development is suggested, as identified on the Land Use Plan Map. Zoning for new residential development should be limited to the areas suggested for such uses by the Land Use Plan Map. For any new residential development, the following should be considered:

- New dwellings and additions to existing dwellings should incorporate building methods such as sound proofing to mitigate noise impacts.
- Mechanisms should be established to notify future homeowners of the location and possible effects of the airport on residential lifestyles prior to home purchase. These mechanisms could include subdivision plat notes and sales material, and should include deed or restrictive covenants.

#### **Airport Operational Areas**

Within the Airport Operational Areas shown on the Land Use Plan Map, the following uses should be discouraged:

- Residential
- Residential services such as nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

#### **Runway Approach Areas**

Within the Runway Approach Area shown on the Land Use Plan Map, the following uses should be discouraged:

- Residential
- Residential service uses such as nursing homes and assisted living facilities
- Places of assembly, such as nursery schools, child or adult day care centers, kindergartens and hospitals.

#### **Specific Master Planned/Land Aggregation Areas**

Land uses should be achieved through aggregation and/or master planning to enhance the economic potential of the area; conform to land use regulation; achieve land use compatibility or transition; or provide adequate transportation improvements.

### **Ettrick/Virginia State University (VSU) Study Area**

Ettrick began as the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century plantation home of Scottish merchant Neil Buchanan that he named Ettrick Banks, possibly after the town or river of Ettrick in Selkirk County, Scotland. Industries from Petersburg soon crossed the Appomattox River into Chesterfield County in the vicinity of Ettrick, beginning with a flour inspection station on Fleet's Hill, which is now home to the campus of Virginia State University. In 1810, a permit was granted to construct a bridge across the Appomattox River near the base of Fleet's Hill. Today, the current bridge at this same spot still provides the only direct access between Petersburg and Ettrick. The first true urban residential settlement in Ettrick occurred along what are now Main, Light, Pannill, Totty, Court and Jackson Streets in the 1830s and 1840s.

Virginia State University (VSU) is an important force in Ettrick's economy and revitalization. The campus has been steadily expanding in both size and curriculum, and continues to be a major area influence on housing and service needs. Founded in 1882, VSU is the nation's oldest state-supported land grant college for African-Americans. The first president of the college, John Mercer Langston, was one of the best-known African-Americans of his day. Until 1992, he was the only African-American ever elected to the United States Congress from Virginia (elected in 1888). VSU is one of two land-grant institutions in the Commonwealth of Virginia, crowning a bluff above the Appomattox River with integrated modern and historic buildings. Three campus buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and eligibility of the entire campus as a historic district has been considered.

The University anticipates an enrollment of 10,000 by 2020, or double the current (2012) enrollment. A Master Plan to guide this growth and expansion has recently been adopted. Plans suggest partnerships with Chesterfield County to support and enhance on-campus growth. Recommendations include development of new buildings and grounds, additions and renovations to existing spaces, and overall enhancements to improve on-campus academic and cultural life generally centered around a pedestrian-friendly environment. Redevelopment of Chesterfield Avenue for an integrated mix of housing and retail is also suggested.

As VSU grows and expands in accordance with its Master Plan, it is anticipated that positive redevelopment pressures will occur on the lands surrounding the University and other nearby areas.

### **Rail Service**

An Amtrak station is located within the study area and provides access to rail service to the north and south, with new passenger rail service to Norfolk expected to begin in 2012. A rail study is underway for high speed rail (Southeast High Speed Rail) service between Raleigh and Richmond. This service would include a stop in the area, currently identified at the Ettrick station. The expansion of rail service would have a positive economic development impact, potentially increase housing demand in the area and would benefit the growth and expansion of VSU.

### **Current County Revitalization Efforts**

Recognizing the positive influence of VSU, Chesterfield County is actively involved with the Ettrick community and the University in area improvements. To this end, a plan, known as the *Chesterfield Avenue Enhancement Project* has been developed. This plan includes streetscape improvements such as sidewalks, street trees, lighting and signage and is being implemented incrementally.

### This Plan Effort

Given the above, this plan proposes designating the area for a mix of Community Mixed Use and Medium-High Density Residential uses, as discussed in the Land Use Plan Map Categories. Further, the plan identifies opportunities for incorporation of a unique mixture of residential and commercial uses along the Appomattox riverfront. A more detailed Special Area Plan should be prepared following adoption of the Comprehensive Plan.

### **Historic Courthouse Design Area**

To ensure visual compatibility and appropriately reflect the historic significance of the Courthouse area, future non-residential development should incorporate similar Federalist and Colonial architectural design features as other non-residential developments in the area. Examples of these include Magnolia Grange, Castlewood, Chesterfield Meadows Shopping Center and Courthouse Commons.

## **SITE SPECIFIC NOTES**

### **Note 1: Route 60/Huguenot Springs Road**

To preserve historic character and maintain a sense of place at the northwestern quadrant of Midlothian Turnpike and Huguenot Springs Road, development should be sensitive to the historic structures of Bethel Baptist Church and Hallsborough Tavern. Development is encouraged to incorporate the design features of these historic properties, including building scale, architectural design and materials.

### **Note 2: Powhite Parkway Extended Interchanges and Route 288/Qualla Road Interchange**

The areas around the interchanges of Powhite Parkway with Genito Road; Powhite Parkway with a new road in the vicinity of Duval Road; and Route 288 and Qualla Road should be reserved and developed for Regional Mixed Uses. The exact boundaries of such uses should be determined through more detailed site analysis to include available land area, vehicular access and impact on surrounding land uses, and to determine which quadrants are best suited for such development. Development of such uses should occur in conjunction with the construction of Powhite Parkway Extended or the interchange of Route 288 and Qualla Road and the availability of the public utility systems.

### **Note 3: Chippenham Parkway/Route 10**

At the northeast and southeast quadrants of Chippenham Parkway and Route 10, land uses other than those shown on the Land Use Plan Map may be appropriate if adequate land is assembled to minimize the impact on surrounding land uses; if adequate land is assembled to provide direct vehicular access to Route 10 without using internal residential streets; and if mitigating road improvements are provided. Such alternative land uses could include Community Mixed Uses or Regional Mixed Uses.

### **Note 4: Route 288/Route 360**

Density and intensity of development of the property at the northwest quadrant of Route 288 and Hull Street Road is dependent upon adequate access and mitigating road improvements. Due to the anticipated physical and economic constraints restricting the ability to provide such mitigating road improvements, Regional Mixed Use as shown on the Land Use Plan Map may not be achievable. Under these circumstances, development of less intensive land uses would be appropriate.

### **Note 5: East-West Freeway Interchanges**

Regional Mixed Use would be appropriate around these interchanges. Development should be phased in conjunction with construction of the East-West Freeway, the availability of public utility systems and provision of other public facilities to support the proposed uses.

### **Waterfront Opportunity Sites (Not All Potential Sites Identified on the Land Use Plan Map)**

These areas are opportunity sites for alternative land uses to those recommended by the Land Use Plan Map that would capitalize upon their proximity to water and associated water amenities. Integrated mixed use developments to include various types of residential and commercial should be encouraged. Appropriate uses include those recommended for Community Mixed Use areas. These sites should be designed to encourage year-round use; to capitalize on views and other opportunities offered by their proximity to the water; and in accordance with the guidelines suggested for Community Mixed Use areas.

Some potential Waterfront Opportunity Sites are shown on the Land Use Plan Map. More detailed recommendations regarding the Ettrick Waterfront Opportunity Site can be found in the Ettrick/VSU Study Area note. In addition to the sites shown on the Land Use Plan Map, other locations may be appropriate and should be given favorable consideration on a case-by-case basis when a unique development proposal meeting the criteria is presented.





